

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 have been examined and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

I. Formal Matters

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of a certified copy of the priority document.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statements filed July 2, 2003.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0943895 A2 to Ashby et al. ("Ashby") in view of U.S. 6,473,790 to Tagi ("Tagi"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim 1 comprises a data distribution server comprising a plurality of data files, wherein each of the data files is classified by type of each data file and is further classified by function. An illustrative, non-limiting embodiment of claim 1 is shown in Fig. 3, where data is classified by type, for example, ROAD and POINT INFORMATION, and each data file is further classified by function, for example, VOICE GUIDANCE and SEARCH, respectively.

In contrast, Ashby discloses separate collections of geographic data for use by each of the separate functions in the navigation application (para. 0053). For example, Fig. 5 illustrates the routing subset 136 of geographic data that must be accessed first to obtain routing road segment data entities, and then the cartographic subset 137 is accessed to obtain cartographic road segment entities corresponding to route data (para. 0055). To permit these data subsets to work together, index files 140 may be included that provide cross references or other data finding

techniques (para. 0055). Therefore, Ashby's navigation functions access the data entities which must be combined for the desired navigation function, but these entities do not have classifications as recited in claim 1.

Tagi discloses a serving apparatus that communicates with a mobile terminal to provide the mobile terminal with various information residing on the serving apparatus (col. 1, ll. 6-9, col. 2, ll. 57-col. 3, ll. 63). As in Ashby, the database merely supplies data which must be combined for the desired navigation function, but the data files do not have classifications as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the combination of Ashby and Tagi. Also, dependent claims 2-7 are patentable over the combined references at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Since claim 8 contains features that are similar to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 8 is patentable for similar reasons. Also, since claims 9-12 depend from claim 8, they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Conclusion

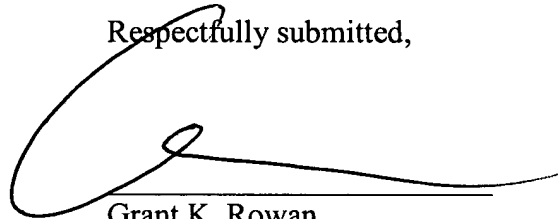
In view of the above, claims 1-12, which are all the claims pending in the application, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/987,632

Attorney Docket: Q66942

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant K. Rowan', written over a horizontal line.

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Date: November 10, 2005